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SPANISH LITERATURE.

Littérature espagnole par JAMES FITZMAURICE-KELLY. Traduction de HENRY D. DAVRAY. Paris : Librairie Armand Colin, 1904. 8vo., pp. 499.

There can be no better evidence of the solid worth of Mr. Fitzmaurice-Kelly's *History of Spanish Literature* than the fact that, since its appearance in English in 1898, it has been translated into both Spanish and French. It was certainly a handsome tribute to the author's sound scholarship that Spaniards have paid in demanding a version of the *History* in their own tongue; and much as the work was improved and augmented in its Spanish dress, it has again been further bettered in this French translation.

It must be confessed that the incisive, clear-cut, brilliant style of the English original suffered a good deal in the Spanish rendering; in this respect also the French version is an improvement. While it is true that the picturesque and vivid manner,—the vigorous, striking sentences of the original have not always been preserved (Mr. Fitzmaurice-Kelly's English is not easy to translate), yet in the French version this style is much more apparent; at all events, it is not wholly swamped and submerged as has happened in the Spanish translation. Enough of the literary quality of the original remains to make the work in its present dress an exceedingly enjoyable book to read.

A comparison of this French translation with its original shows that scarcely a page has been left without some change. In many places the original has been condensed (all the verse quotations, for example, have been omitted), to make room for additional matter. It would be impossible in the space of a review, to point out all these changes; we can only call attention to one of the most important ones here. The lack of any discussion, in the English edition, of so important a part of Spanish literature as the *Romances*, must have been felt by every reader, and this omission was deplored by Sr. Menéndez y Pelayo in the learned introduction he has prefixed to the Spanish translation. In this French version Mr. Fitzmaurice-Kelly has inserted a discussion of the

Spanish ballad covering ten pages (pp. 115–125), and we can say without fear of contradiction that nowhere (if we except special treatises upon the subject) will the reader find so comprehensive an account of the earliest *Romances* as is condensed into these pages. Indeed, it is a striking feature of the whole volume before us that there is not a superfluous sentence in it. It is compact of facts—of the latest investigations upon the subject, and related in an animated, vivid style which never flags. It is literature in the true sense of the word, and not the mere desultory stringing together of a lot of dry facts, which has made most literature manuals an infallible cure for insomnia.

Another excellent feature of the book is embraced under the modest heading “Notes bibliographiques.” It is the best working bibliography of Spanish literature with which the writer is acquainted, and is arranged on a novel plan,—not under periods (as is generally done), but alphabetically, so that the student can be oriented at a glance concerning any particular author. This will be found most helpful and time-saving.

Lastly, the volume is furnished with a complete index, which we have tested in a score of places and never found wanting. In short, in its present form, Mr. Fitzmaurice-Kelly's work is the most complete, the most trustworthy, the best manual of Spanish literature that has yet appeared, and it is not at all likely to be soon superseded by any other.

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SWEDISH GRAMMAR.

Vårt Språk, Nysvensk Grammatik i utförlig Framställning af ADOLF NOREEN. Band I, 1, 2. Lund, 1903. Pp. 260.

From the press of the well-known publishing house of C. W. K. Gleerup, the first two numbers of *Vårt Språk, New Swedish grammar*, has been received. The fact that the work is published under the direction of the Swedish Academy gives it official sanction as a grammar of present Swedish,

while the name of the editor is a sufficient guarantee that it will be scientific and scholarly in every respect. From the subscription announcement we learn that the grammar will appear in four parts with an exhaustive index, the whole to be bound in nine volumes of 500–600 pages each. By New Swedish grammar the author understands (see pp. 7 and 51–52) a scientific presentation of the present character and historical development of Modern Swedish, both spoken and written, the official language and the dialects, predominantly the former, with regard to sound, form, and meaning. The present grammar is, therefore, to treat of Swedish in its entirety from 1527 to the present—the language of literature, cultured speech and lower or ‘vulgär’ speech, as well as the dialects. An idea of the plan can best be given from the outline of the contents according to the publisher’s announcement.

PART I.

General Introduction to the New Swedish Grammar.

- Vol. 1. Chap. 1. The idea ‘New Swedish Grammar.’
 2. The position of Swedish in the Germanic group. 3. Geographical distribution of Swedish.
 4. The periods and sources. 5. History of the study of New Swedish. 6. Bibliographical survey of the most important helps for the present study of New Swedish.

PART II.

Phonology.

- Section 1. Phonetic introduction (phonetics); Chap. 1. The acoustic character of speech-sounds (phonetic acoustics). 2. The speech organs (phonetic anatomy). 3. Articulation (phonetic physiology).
- Vol. 2. Section 2. Descriptive phonology. A. Qualitative phonology. Chap. 1. The separate speech-sounds. 2. The sound-combinations. B. Prosody. Chap. 1. Sonority and syllabification. 2. Quantity (sound-length). 3. Intensity (stress). 4. Tonality (pitch).
- Vol. 3. Section 3. Etymological phonology. A. Methodological introduction. Chap. 1. General Notes. 2. The causes of changes in pronunciation. 3. The result of changes in pronunciation. 4. On the meaning of ‘sound-law.’ B. The sonants: 1. New Swedish sound laws; a. Qualitative. 1. The development of the vowels inherited from Old Swedish. 2. The vowels in loan-words; b. Quantitative; c. Changes in intensity; d. Changes in tonality.
- Vol. 4. II. Traces of earlier sound-laws. C. The consonants.

PART III.

Semasiology.

- Vol. 5. Section 1. Introduction.
 Section 2. Descriptive semasiology: A. Grammatical categories. B. Functional categories.
- Vol. 6. Section 3. Etymological semasiology.

PART IV.

Morphology.

- Vol. 7. Section 1. Introduction.
 Section 2. Descriptive morphology. A. Forms:
- Vol. 8. I. The word. II. Syntax. B. Inflections.
- Vol. 9. Section 3. Etymological morphology.
 Index to volumes I–VIII.

Volumes 1 and 2 are at present ready in manuscript form, as also much of 3, 5, and 7. Volumes 1, 3, 5, and 7 will be published at the same time in separate numbers. According to the plan, the work will be published in semi-annual numbers of 125 to 150 pages each. “While not losing sight of scientific exactness and thoroughness, it will aim to be in the best sense popular and as pedagogical as possible, so as to make it suitable for private study and also serviceable as a text-book for scientific study, especially at the Universities.”

In this brief notice of Noreen’s *Vårt Språk*, a work which all who are interested in Scandinavian study must welcome, it is not my purpose to review the part of it that has so far appeared. As the grammar of a modern language built up on scientific principles by a great scholar, the carrying out of the plan as outlined cannot fail to make the work of interest to others besides ‘Scandinavianists.’ Two entire volumes, 5 and 6, are to be given to the author’s second main division of grammar, namely, meaning or semasiology. Thus will an element in language—the psychological element—which hitherto has received little or no space in grammars, receive its due attention along with sound and form.

That so much of the work has already been written will undoubtedly insure the regular appearance of numbers as planned.

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